United States Marine Corps

Marine Corps Systems Command
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Student Handout

Components and Characteristics of the Individual First Aid Kit (IFAK)

TERMINAL LEARNING OBJECTIVE (TLO). Given the components of the individual first aid kit, identify the components and capabilities of each without error.

- 1. Within the old first aid kit there are the following items:
 - a. 1-Eye Patch Dressing
 - b. 1-Battle Dressing with Tie Ends
 - c. 1-Bottle of Iodine Water Purification Tablets
 - d. 1-Bottle of Wound Disinfectant
 - e. 1-Lip Balm
 - f. 2-Cravat's
 - q. 10-Adhesive Bandages
- 2. Within the new first aid kit there are the following items:
 - a. 1-Packet of Adsorbent Hemostatic Agent (QuikClot)
 - b. 1-Package of Burn Dressing (Water-Jel)
 - c. 1-Bottle of Iodine Water Purification Tablets

 - e. 1-Tourniquet
 - f. 2-Pressure Dressings
 - g. 2-Bulky Gauze Rolls
 - h. 10-Adhesive Bandages





3. Adsorbent Hemostatic Agent - The hemostatic agent is a Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved, sterile granular mineral powder, which is vacuum-sealed in a packet to prevent moisture from being absorbed. When applied to a wound with moderate to severe venous or arterial bleeding, it will cause the wound to develop a clot that will stop the flow of blood. This is accomplished by the agent working as a sponge that absorbs the water within the blood; thus, creating a clot. This material, once applied, forms a clot and will remain within the wound until removed by medical personnel.



4. <u>Burn Gel</u> - The Burn Gel is a 4" x 16" woven material saturated with a gel. It is FDA approved and has been proven to extinguish white phosphorous burns. When used immediately after a burn, it cools the burn area, reduces the chance for hypothermia, and prevents the burn from further progression. It protects the burn against contamination and infection and eases the pain of the burn victim. <u>Do Not</u> use this product for anything other than burns.



5. <u>Iodine Water Purification Tablets</u> - These tablets purify water of questionable potability.

WARNING: AFTER HANDLING THE TABLETS, YOU MUST WASH HANDS THOROUGHLY. IF YOUR EYES COME IN CONTACT WITH THE TABLETS OR RESIDUE, IT COULD CAUSE TEMPORARY BLINDNESS.



6. Bottle of Wound Disinfectant (Betadine Solution) - A disinfectant that is a betadine solution, which is a dark brown liquid soap. It is used to clean and disinfect minor wounds.



7. <u>Tourniquet</u> - The tourniquet is an elastic latex band with two steel s-hooks. It is used to stop arterial and venous blood flow from the extremities. The tourniquet must be applied two to four inches above the wound, between the wound and the heart. Once it has been applied, it can only be removed by medical personnel.



- 8. Pressure Dressings There are two pressure dressings within the new first aid kit. These pressure dressings are 4" wide elastic wraps with an 8"x10" absorbent cotton pad attached close to the end of one side of the elastic wrap. On the other side of the absorbent pad, in the middle on the elastic wrap side, is a steel S-hook that allows for application of the dressing by an individual. Finally, at both ends of the elastic wrap there are Velcro strips that allow for ease of securing the dressing. The dressing can be used every where and for the following applications:
 - a. Bandaging Extremities
 - b. Sling
 - c. Chest Wounds
 - d. Abdominal Wounds
 - e. Head Wounds





9. <u>Bulky Gauze Rolls</u> - There are two cotton gauze rolls within the kit. These are used for protection of minor wounds and wrapped loosely around the burn dressing to secure it over the burn area. They are also used for direct pressure of medium and severe wounds and to wipe away excess blood prior to the application of the hemostatic agent.



10. Adhesive Bandages - Package of 10 adhesive bandages used for minor cuts and abrasions.